

## Meeting Minutes

<http://set.lanl.gov/spac/>

(TA-00, Canyon Complex, Room # 168)

Date: 2/14/02

### **Members Present:**

Jerry Foropoulos, NMT-DO  
David Hobart (Chair), C-AAC  
Randy Kanzleiter, X-2  
Bill Robertson, IM-2  
Tracy Ruscetti, B-2  
Lonnie Theye (Vice-Chair), NMT-DO  
Sheila Wasfey, ESH-IM

Student Representatives Organization  
Josh Miller (Chair of Student Association), BUS-3  
Karolyn Tolzien (GRA Member), BUS-1  
Chris Trembl (GRA Member), SNS  
Ryan Toya (Treasure of Student Association), BUS-2  
Claire Kerven (GRA Member), E-DO

LANL Representatives  
Margaret Marshall, OEO  
Vicki Barnett, Housing Office  
Kurt Steinhaus, STB-EPO  
Carole Rutten, STB-EPO  
Kari Lier, STB-EPO

The meeting was called to order by Dave Hobart, at 8:05 am.

### **Minutes**

#### **Previous Minutes:**

Bill R. read the meeting minutes from the 1/31/02 meeting. There were no revisions suggested however Bill will email the minutes to SPAC for further review.

#### **General Info:**

Dave H. had everyone introduce themselves since there are so many new members. He mentioned that another group photo or addendum photo would be taken in the near future since many members were not present in the last meeting when the picture was taken.

#### **Departure Announcements:**

Dave H. announced that Veronique Longmire and Karolyn Tolzien have stepped down. Chris Trembl also announced later in the meeting that she would step down after today's meeting. Josh Miller was hired on by LANL into a permanent position and thus would

be unable to stay in his Student Association (SA) chair position. He will continue supporting SA. Izzy M. will be acting Chair of SA.

**Exceptions:**

An exception was reviewed. SPAC provided the pros and cons of the options to management. Archive reference # 2/14/02a.

**Rapid Entry Subcommittee:**

Dave H. said Robert Gurule (not Michael Murillo as was accidentally stated in the meeting) could not be the lead on the Rapid Entry subcommittee.

**Historian Team:**

Chris Trembl spoke about the Historian Team's new procedures for taking meeting minutes and archiving. Sheila W. is the official meeting minute taker however a backup will be selected and the Chair will assign someone to take minutes if Sheila, the rest of the Historian Team, and the backup are absent from a meeting. An attendance list will be used at each meeting. A draft of the sanitized minutes will be emailed to SPAC for comment and these meeting's minutes will be read at the start of the next meeting for comment before being emailed in MS Word format to the Web Team and posted on the web. Archives of the nonsanitized meeting minutes, exception index and summary, slides, hand-outs, charter/by-laws, member lists, subcommittee and team lists, index and table of contents on web, and any other relevant historical documentation will be indexed and held in Carole R's office. Please make sure you give the Historical Team any hand-outs/slides presented at the meetings. The template for the minutes (ref # 2/14/02b) and exceptions (2/14/02c) were passed around. We will include action items and unresolved issues in the minutes.

**Housing report:**

The Housing Office updated SPAC on housing issues. (Hand-out 2/14/02d) There are 43 units available in the LA area and they anticipate 24 more units will become available. The Los Alamos Inn is prohibitively expensive. The College of Santa Fe has apartments with shared kitchens on each floor and communal bathrooms but students are on their own for transportation to LANL. The College of Santa Fe does have apartments with their own kitchens, etc but they are \$100 per night and they are not available for only a 2-month summer period. So currently there is room to house a maximum of 50 students but out of the 1200-1600 students that typically come to LANL in the summer to work, 1/3 are from outside the tricounty area and presumably need housing.

The housing office is looking into a web page so that the private sector can offer rooms in homes. They are also working with BUS-5 to get an RFP for more apartments. It was submitted in September but it is not yet finished so it won't be in time to help this summer's students.

A question was asked about the possibility of students staying at the Canyon Village apartments. The housing office said that negotiations were never formalized legally and they are no longer involved with Canyon Village. Dave H. said that basically Canyon Village priced themselves out of the student market. (\$800 –1200 per one –two bedroom apartment.)

The housing office explained that students are a small portion of the housing market that they maintain. The housing office ends up paying 2 to 3 to sometimes 4 months in rent to hold apartments so that they are available for students. They also subsidize \$100 per month for rent for the students. So from February to May or June the housing office is hit in the pocket. This loss can't exceed 250k per year. They would like to get more students employed at LANL year-round so that they don't have to incur this loss.

A question was asked about the status of 9<sup>th</sup> street apartments. The housing office explained that these were transferred by DOE in the land transfer of 1999 which is unfortunate since there were 97 fully-equipped apartments that were owned by DOE and managed by LANL. But the housing office explained that DOE is not in the business of housing students. Students who do not get housing are basically homeless.

Carole R. said she met with Ken Feller from the Virtual Los Alamos web page to provide a website for students to look for housing. LANL will provide a site for people to advertise student housing. This collaboration will only last from March – June and landlords can advertise for free from March-April. Outside of that timeframe, the cost to landlords to advertise is \$10 per month. Also the senior center will put something in their newsletters about students needing housing. LANL will put an advertisement in the Los Alamos Monitor for the Virtual Los Alamos site. There will also be an appeal submitted to the volunteer section of the lab website.

The housing office explained that they have pulled back from housing referrals and listing what is available in the community for liability reasons. Links to the Chamber of Commerce and the LA County web pages can be put on the SA pages though. The housing office can't link to the Virtual Los Alamos page from their website because it showed favoritism to this site. If the housing website listed available housing in the area it would be directly competing with Virtual Los Alamos. Carole R. said that housing information will be sent out to students and they will be told of sources for finding housing in the new student orientation sessions.

Dave H. said that the housing white paper will be turned in to Allen Hartford soon. Dave H. will send the draft out to SPAC.

Josh M. asked how the housing office recharge was used. The housing office stated that the .58 of labor pays for the housing office overhead and that DOE may not want to increase this to help pay for student housing.

Carole R. said Bill Cohen from Tampkin Engineering has creative ways of designing and building dorms at no cost. When the dorms become occupied they collect their fee but someone else needs to take over management of the property. The housing office said there are legal considerations with this type of arrangement. Also dorms can't be built on lab property. Carole R. will submit the Tampkin Engineering information as an Appendix to the housing subcommittee report.

#### **Student Association:**

Josh M. is resigning because he started a permanent UC position this week. He will help with the transition period of SA. Izzy M. is acting chair. The by-laws say that the vice-chair will become chair. The summer elections will be held in June.

Josh M. announced the Student/Post-doc Career Fair on Feb 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11:30am in the Otowi siderooms. He asked that SPAC spread the word about this and hang posters up in our divisions if we had time. At least 8 div are going to be there with 14 hiring officials. 68 post-docs and 25 UGS and GRA have responded so far. This is an opportunity for students to get hired into permanent positions at the lab. This is also a good opportunity for students to look for other student positions outside of their divisions. Dave H. said SPAC will have a table there to recruit students. If this is successful then HR may have another one at the end of the summer. Carole R. said there will be something like it at the Student Symposium this year. Carole R. also organized a resume workshop for students.

Josh M. said announcements for activities like bowling and skiing outings will be posted on their website and a bulletin board instead of being emailed. The website is at [www.sa.lanl.gov](http://www.sa.lanl.gov). If anyone knows of pictures or write-ups that can go on this site please email [toya\\_ryan@lanl.gov](mailto:toya_ryan@lanl.gov) or [jjmiller@lanl.gov](mailto:jjmiller@lanl.gov). There will also be a link to SPAC, HR, and the Housing pages.

#### **Other Comments, Issues, Announcements:**

SPAC will have a call for students. Lonnie T. will put this together.

Bill R. suggested that all of us make an effort to attend the SA gatherings because it's beneficial to getting student feedback.

The proposed ESH minimum GPA policy was discussed. Carole R. said that the law states students must be in good academic standing which is determined by the academic institution. She didn't feel ESH should set this minimum GPA policy unless they put together a special program like "distinguished students". Tracy R. said the minimum GPA should be left up to the individual hiring official. A majority vote confirmed these ideas as the viewpoint of SPAC. Sheila W. will send a draft response to SPAC before sending it on to ESH.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheila Wasfey, Historian Team

#### **Current and Outstanding Action Items**

From 1/17/02 Meeting:

Need to select a vice-chair of sub-committees – Dave H.

**From 1/31/02 Meeting:**

Find out what GPR stands for versus the traditional Grade Point Average (GPA). - ?

Post archived meeting minutes on the SPAC web page - Sheila W.

Comments about the new student web page? Everyone

UC-Boulder Study Presentation – Kurt S.

Draft Housing and Transportation report to be emailed to SPAC – Dave H.

**From 2/14/02 Meeting:**

A new chair of the Rapid Entry Subcommittee needs to be selected – Dave H.

Select a backup meeting minute taker – Dave H.

Address issues students who stepped down expressed - SPAC

Contact Michael Murillo regarding the approach to selecting students for SPAC and also get the Exceptions template from him – Dave H.

Start the student representative selection process. – Lonnie T.

Draft a SPAC response to ESH regarding their proposed minimum GPA policy. – Sheila W.

Submit the Tampkin Engineering information as an Appendix to the housing subcommittee report – Carole R.